

repealed effective on the effective date of final regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating under section 2071 of this title.

REFERENCES IN TEXT

These Rules, referred to in text, are the Inland Navigational Rules which are classified to this subchapter.

Annex I to these Rules, referred to in text, is to be established by the Secretary under section 2071 of this title.

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of section 2 of Pub. L. 96-591 which enacted the Inland Navigational Rules which comprise this subchapter.

§ 2023. Power-driven vessels underway (Rule 23)

(a) Lights exhibited by power-driven vessels underway

A power-driven vessel underway shall exhibit:

- (i) a masthead light forward;
- (ii) a second masthead light abaft of and higher than the forward one; except that a vessel of less than 50 meters in length shall not be obliged to exhibit such light but may do so;
- (iii) sidelights; and
- (iv) a sternlight.

(b) Air-cushion vessels

An air-cushion vessel when operating in the nondisplacement mode shall, in addition to the lights prescribed in paragraph (a) of this Rule, exhibit an all-round flashing yellow light where it can best be seen.

(c) Alternative lights for power-driven vessels of less than 12 meters in length

A power-driven vessel of less than 12 meters in length may, in lieu of the lights prescribed in paragraph (a) of this Rule, exhibit an all-round white light and sidelights.

(d) Power-driven vessels when operating on Great Lakes

A power-driven vessel when operating on the Great Lakes may carry an all-round white light in lieu of the second masthead light and sternlight prescribed in paragraph (a) of this Rule. The light shall be carried in the position of the second masthead light and be visible at the same minimum range.

(Pub. L. 96-591, §2, Dec. 24, 1980, 94 Stat. 3424; Pub. L. 104-324, title VII, §701(3), Oct. 19, 1996, 110 Stat. 3932.)

REPEAL OF SECTION

Pub. L. 108-293, title III, §303(a), (c), Aug. 9, 2004, 118 Stat. 1042, provided that this section is repealed effective on the effective date of final regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating under section 2071 of this title.

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of section 2 of Pub. L. 96-591 which enacted the Inland Navigational Rules which comprise this subchapter.

AMENDMENTS

1996—Par. (a)(i). Pub. L. 104-324, which directed the striking out of “except that a vessel of less than 20 me-

ters in length need not exhibit this light forward of amidships but shall exhibit it as far forward as is practicable;” after “masthead light forward”, was executed by striking out that language, which appeared after “masthead light forward;” to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

§ 2024. Towing and pushing (Rule 24)

(a) Power-driven vessels when towing astern

A power-driven vessel when towing astern shall exhibit:

- (i) instead of the light prescribed either in Rule 23(a)(i) or 23(a)(ii), two masthead lights in a vertical line. When the length of the tow, measuring from the stern of the towing vessel to the after end of the tow exceeds 200 meters, three such lights in a vertical line;
- (ii) sidelights;
- (iii) a sternlight;
- (iv) a towing light in a vertical line above the sternlight; and
- (v) when the length of the tow exceeds 200 meters, a diamond shape where it can best be seen.

(b) Pushing vessel and pushed vessel rigidly connected in composite unit

When a pushing vessel and a vessel being pushed ahead are rigidly connected in a composite unit they shall be regarded as a power-driven vessel and exhibit the lights prescribed in Rule 23.

(c) Power-driven vessel when pushing ahead or towing alongside

A power-driven vessel when pushing ahead or towing alongside, except as required by paragraphs (b) and (i) of this Rule, shall exhibit:

- (i) instead of the light prescribed either in Rule 23(a)(i) or 23(a)(ii), two masthead lights in a vertical line;
- (ii) sidelights; and
- (iii) two towing lights in a vertical line.

(d) Compliance with other requirements

A power-driven vessel to which paragraphs (a) or (c) of this Rule apply shall also comply with Rule 23(a)(i) and 23(a)(ii).

(e) Vessels being towed

A vessel or object other than those referred to in paragraph (g) of this Rule being towed shall exhibit:

- (i) sidelights;
- (ii) a sternlight; and
- (iii) when the length of the tow exceeds 200 meters, a diamond shape where it can best be seen.

(f) Vessels being towed alongside or pushed in a group

Provided that any number of vessels being towed alongside or pushed in a group shall be lighted as one vessel, except as provided in paragraph (iii)—

- (i) a vessel being pushed ahead, not being part of a composite unit, shall exhibit at the forward end, sidelights and a special flashing light;
- (ii) a vessel being towed alongside shall exhibit a sternlight and at the forward end, sidelights and a special flashing light; and
- (iii) when vessels are towed alongside on both sides of the towing vessels a stern light¹

¹ So in original. Probably should be “sternlight”.